

Appl. No. 09/484,121
Amdt. Dated October 15, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 15, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-33 (canceled)

34. (new) A process for detoxifying bacterial lipopolysaccharide in a patient with septicemia caused by gram-negative bacteria, by gram-positive bacteria, by trauma or by injury, which comprises the steps of determining an effective amount of lipopolysaccharide binding protein needed for detoxifying bacterial lipopolysaccharide in said patient wherein said effective amount of lipopolysaccharide binding protein elevates the concentration of lipopolysaccharide binding protein in said patient to a sufficiently high level to suppress lipopolysaccharide-induced release of cytokine, and administering to said patient in need therefor said effective amount of lipopolysaccharide binding protein to elevate the concentration of lipopolysaccharide binding protein in said patient to a sufficiently high level to suppress lipopolysaccharide-induced release of cytokine.
35. (new) The process of claim 34 wherein said lipopolysaccharide binding protein is a native or a recombinant lipopolysaccharide binding protein.
36. (new) The process of claim 34, wherein said lipopolysaccharide binding protein is of human, rabbit, or murine lipopolysaccharide binding protein.
37. (new) The process of claim 34, wherein said suppression of lipopolysaccharide-induced release of cytokine by lipopolysaccharide binding protein is enhanced by increasing the binding affinity of said lipopolysaccharide binding protein by means of mutation or hybridization.
38. (new) The process of claim 34 wherein said concentration of lipopolysaccharide binding protein is elevated to at least 4 μ g/mL.
39. (new) The process of claim 38 wherein said concentration of lipopolysaccharide binding protein is elevated to at least 10 μ g/mL.

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40. (new) The process of claim 39 wherein said concentration of lipopolysaccharide binding protein is elevated to at least 20 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

41 (new) A process for preventing toxification of bacterial lipopolysaccharide in a subject at risk of exposure to gram-negative bacteria or gram-positive bacteria, which comprises determining an effective amount of lipopolysaccharide binding protein needed for preventing toxification of bacterial lipopolysaccharide in said subject wherein said effective amount of lipopolysaccharide binding protein elevates the concentration of lipopolysaccharide binding protein in said subject to a sufficiently high level to prevent lipopolysaccharide-induced release of cytokine, and administering to said subject in need therefor said effective amount of lipopolysaccharide binding protein to elevate the concentration of lipopolysaccharide binding protein in said subject to a sufficiently high level to prevent lipopolysaccharide-induced release of cytokine.